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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,455	10/27/2003	Fumihito Inui	03560.003382	2910
5514 7590 09/04/2007 FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			EXAMINER HERNANDEZ, NELSON D	
			ART UNIT 2622	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/04/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Rule 312 Communication	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/693,455	INUI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nelson D. Hernandez	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 31 July 2007 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☐ entered.

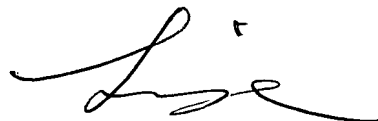
b) ☒ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.



LIN YE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The Examiner acknowledges the amendments made after Notice of Allowance to **claims 11 and 12** filed on July 31, 2007 under 37 CFR 1.312. The Amendments are accepted, as they do not affect the scope of the invention.

Response to Arguments

2. The Examiner notes the typographical error made in the Statement or Reasons for Allowance in the pervious Office Action. The Examiner is including a corrected Statement or Reasons for Allowance in this Office' Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. **Claims 1-12 are allowed.**
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the main reason for indication of allowable subject matter is because the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, including all the elements of the present claim, that the n optical-signal common output lines and the n noise-signal common output lines are arranged parallel to each other, and, of the n optical-signal common output lines and the n noise-signal common output lines, a first optical-signal common output line, a first noise-signal common output line, a second optical-signal common output line, and a second noise-signal common output line are arranged in the sequence of the first optical-signal common output line, the first noise-signal common output line, the second noise-signal common output line, and the second optical-signal

common output line, and wherein the first optical-signal common output line and the first noise-signal common output line are connected to the first differential output means, and the second optical-signal common output line and the second noise-signal common output line are connected to the second differential output means.

Regarding claim 9, the main reason for indication of allowable subject matter is because the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, including all the elements of the present claim, that the n first-signal common output lines and the n second-signal common output lines are arranged parallel to each other, and, of the n first-signal common output lines and the n second-signal common output lines, at least four common output lines consisting of a first first-signal common output line, a first second-signal common output line, a second first-signal common output line, and a second second-signal common output line are arranged in the sequence: the first first-signal common output line, the first second-signal common output line, the second second-signal common output line, and the second first-signal common output line, and wherein the first first-signal common output line and the first second-signal common output line are connected to the first differential output means, and the second first-signal common output line and the second second-signal common output line are connected to the second differential output means.

Regarding claim 10, the main reason for indication of allowable subject matter is because the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, including all the elements of the present claim, that the n first-signal common output lines and the n second-signal common output lines are arranged parallel to each other, and, of the n first-signal common output lines and the n second-signal common output lines, at least four

common output lines consisting of a first first-signal common output lines, a first second-signal common output line, a second first-signal common output line, and a second second-signal common output line are arranged in the sequence: the first first-signal common output line, the first second-signal common output line, the second second-signal common output line, and the second first-signal common output line, and wherein the first first-signal common output line and the first second-signal common output line are connected to the first differential output means, and the second first-signal common output line and the second second-signal common output line are connected to the second differential output means.

Regarding claim 11, the main reason for indication of allowable subject matter is because the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, including all the elements of the present claim, that the common output lines are arranged in parallel in the sequence of the first optical-signal common output line, the first noise-signal common output line, the second noise-signal common output line, and the second optical-signal common output line, the first optical-signal common output line and the first noise-signal common output line are connected to the first differential output means, and the second optical-signal common output line and the second noise-signal common output line are connected to the second differential output means

Regarding claim 12, the main reason for indication of allowable subject matter is because the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, including all the elements of the present claim, that the signal lines are arranged in parallel in the sequence of said first signal line, said second signal line, said third signal line, and said fourth signal line, and the signal levels of the second signals are lower than that of the first signals.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nelson D. Hernandez whose telephone number is (571) 272-7311. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571) 272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nelson D. Hernandez
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

NDHH
August 28, 2007



LIN YE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER